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**SECTION 254(e) CERTIFICATION**

September 23, 2002

Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re.: CC Docket No. 96-45

This is to certify that Western Telephone Company ("the company"), will use its Interstate Common Line Support and Long Term Support only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and service for which the support is intended.

I am authorized to make this certification on behalf of the company named above. This certification is provided for all study areas under the common control of the company, and which are listed below.

Signed,

Date: 9.23.02

Chris Hopp  
Controller/Treasurer  
Western Telephone Company  
27 N. Minnesota St., P.O. Box 697  
New Ulm, MN 56073-0697

Company Name	State	Study Area No.
Western Telephone Company	Minnesota	361502

cc: NECA North Central Regional Office

Western Telephone Company 22 S Marshall Springfield, MN 56087

voice: 507 723 4211 fax: 507 723 4377